

2000 STRATOSPHERIC OZONE PROTECTION AWARDS

Introduction

The Stratospheric Protection Division of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites nominations for the 2000 Stratospheric Ozone Protection Awards (see attachment 1 for an application). This annual program was established in 1990 to recognize exceptional leadership, personal dedication, and technical achievements in eliminating ozone-depleting substances.

Ozone Layer Depletion

The ozone layer forms a thin shield in the stratosphere, protecting life on Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays. The strong scientific consensus is that certain human-made chemicals are destroying this protective layer. These substances are transported by wind currents up to the stratosphere where UV radiation breaks them apart, releasing chlorine atoms that destroy ozone. As the ozone layer is destroyed, increased UV radiation heightens the incidence of skin cancer, cataracts, and weakened immune systems in humans, and it also endangers the environment by threatening important crops and other plant and animal life. Ozone-depleting substances, including chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), halons, carbon tetrachloride, methyl bromide, and methyl chloroform, are used widely in industry and elsewhere as refrigerants, insulating foams, and pesticides.

The Montreal Protocol

Around the world, individuals, organizations, businesses, and governments are working to protect the ozone layer. Over 160 nations have ratified the Montreal Protocol, agreeing to phase out the production of ozone-depleting substances. In November 1992, the Parties revised the Protocol, accelerating the phaseout of CFCs, carbon tetrachloride, and methyl chloroform to January 1996 and halons to January 1994. In December 1995, the Parties targeted methyl bromide and HCFCs for a complete phaseout by 2010.

The Clean Air Act

Title VI of the 1990 U.S. Clean Air Act mandated a comprehensive national program to protect the ozone layer. Since then, EPA has accelerated this effort and eliminated the production of most ozone-depleting substances (with limited exceptions for essential uses). EPA also has implemented other programs to protect the ozone layer, including refrigerant recycling, product labeling, banning nonessential uses of certain compounds, and reviewing substitutes to determine their acceptability.

Stratospheric Ozone Protection Awards

The Stratospheric Ozone Protection Award has been presented to 412 individuals and organizations from 29 countries including Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States, and Venezuela.

This year's winners will be announced during the **2000 Earth Technologies Forum** in Washington, DC, on October 30 to November 1, 2000. Award recipients will be honored at a dinner, sponsored by the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy, on the evening of October 31.

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Selection Criteria:

- ! Applicants must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria:
 - Originality and public purpose
 - Persuasive moral and/or organizational leadership
 - Actual elimination of chemical emissions
- ! Nominations will be reviewed by past winners, who make recommendations to EPA

Eligibility:

- ! Candidates may be from anywhere in the world
- ! Individuals and organizations may work for the public or private sector
- ! Candidates may be either self-nominated or nominated by a third party
- ! The program or activity must have been in existence for at least 1 year

Suggestions:

- ! Merely switching to approved substitutes is not considered 'original'
- ! Compliance with national or international regulations does not constitute 'leadership'
- ! Avoid submitting multiple applications for the same project
- ! For further clarification contact Norma Hughes of the Stratospheric Protection Division,
Phone: 202 564-9091; Fax: 202 565-2155;
E-mail: hughes.norma@epa.gov

Instructions:

- ! All applications must include an official cover letter from the nominator, a completed application form (attachment 1), and a 1/2-page program summary. The 1/2-page summary should describe the project and address the selection criteria.
- ! Since the judges are unable to visit facilities, applicants are encouraged to submit supporting materials such as photographs, news clippings, and press releases.
- ! Neither the application nor the supporting materials will be returned
- ! **Application materials must be postmarked by May 31, 2000, to:**
Kevin Rosseel
Stratospheric Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (6205J)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460 USA
- ! **If sending by fax or e-mail, cover letters, application forms, and summaries must be received by May 31, 2000, to:**
Kevin Rosseel
Stratospheric Protection Division
Fax: 202 565-2155
E-mail: [<rosseel.kevin@epa.gov>](mailto:rosseel.kevin@epa.gov)

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ATTACHMENT 1 APPLICATION FORM (pages 3 to 5)

AWARD CATEGORY (check one):

Individual _____ Association _____ Corporate _____ (including government and military)

Title of project or activity: _____

Approximate date project began: _____

Status of project (check one): Ongoing _____ Completed _____

INFORMATION ABOUT THE NOMINEE: ***(Include an E-mail address to expedite notification.)***

Name of award nominee (individual or organization): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Name of contact person (if nominee is an organization): _____

Address (if different from nominee): _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

If the nominee is located outside the United States or Canada, please provide the name and address of a U.S. contact, if possible:

Name of U.S. contact: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

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NOMINATED BY:

Name: _____

Organization/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

REFERENCES: *Please identify up to three independent experts who can verify the accomplishment(s) of the person or organization being nominated for the award.*

Name: _____

Organization/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Organization/Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

REMINDER: Please attach a 1/2-page summary of the project (see instructions).

Signature of Nominator

Date

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Applications must be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed by May 31, 2000:

**Kevin Rosseel
Stratospheric Protection Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (6205J)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460 USA
Fax: 202 565-2155
E-mail: rosseel.kevin@epa.gov**